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UNIVERSITY
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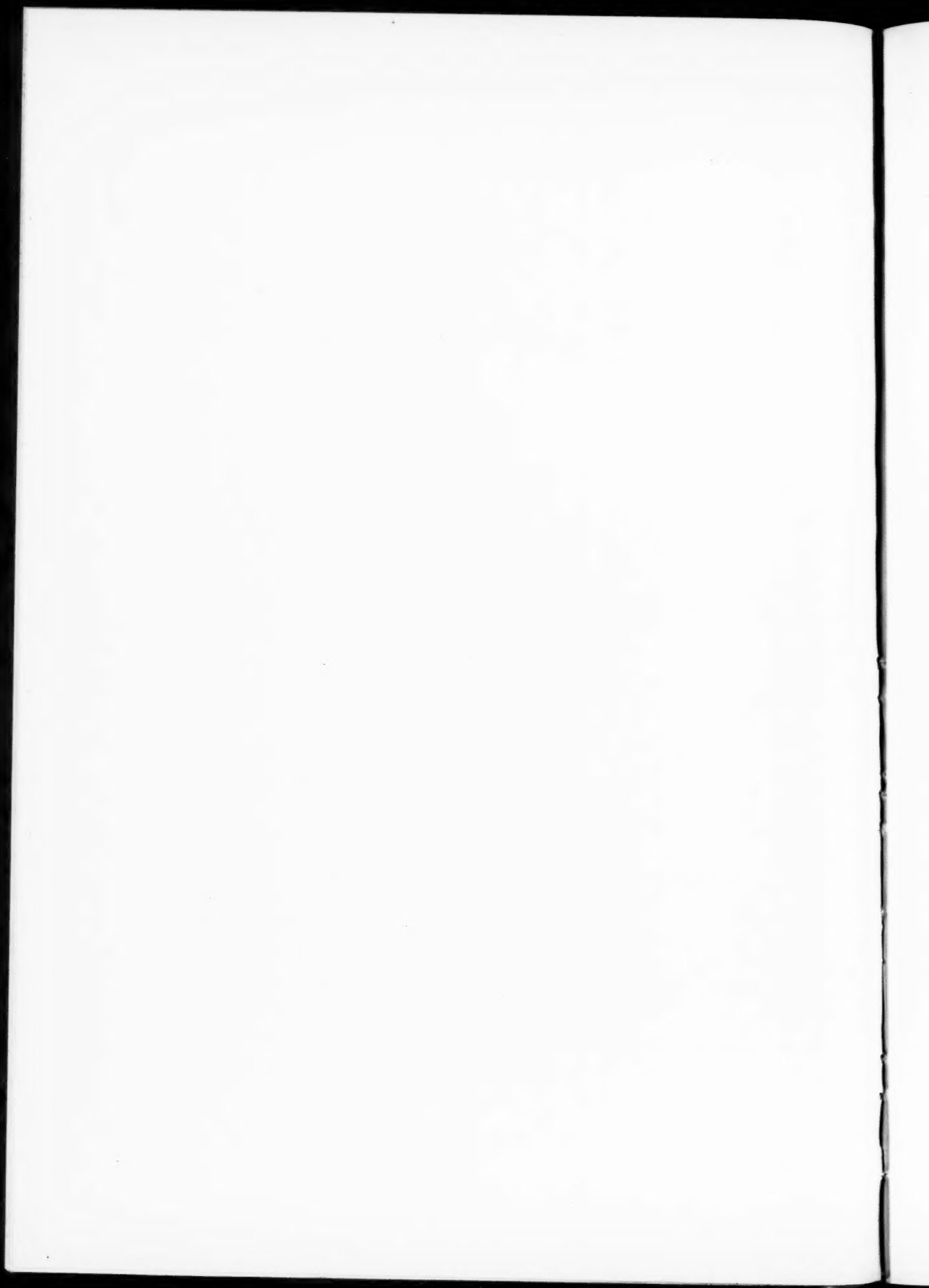
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SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARIES

The Official Organ of the South African Library Association

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THE S. A. L. A

THE SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, with a current membership of 750, is organized on a federal basis, allowing its branches considerable autonomy. As shown on the accompanying chart there are at present seven branches, the members of which together with overseas and unattached members make up the Association. Branches organize their own local affairs and can, for instance, set up committees for special purposes within their own areas. They enrol members on a subscription basis which they themselves decide. All applications for membership must, however, be confirmed by the Council, the central body of the Association.

The main source of the Association's revenue is the affiliation fees which each branch pays to the Association according to the number of its members.

Each branch is represented on the Council. It is Council which is charged by the annual Conference of the Association with running the Association between conferences, and conducting its general affairs. The very representative character of Council prevents it from meeting in full very frequently and it is therefore obliged to elect an Executive Committee to manage the Association's day-to-day affairs. It has been the custom for the President and Secretary and other members of the Executive Committee (with the exception of the Vice-President) to be chosen from one particular area of the country. Thus the Executive Committee is able, as is essential, to meet frequently, and indeed to be in daily consultation. The Executive Committee is assisted by the Central Secretarial Office in which all the clerical work of the Association is undertaken. Council submits an annual report and financial statement to each Conference for its information and approval. Conference in its turn considers motions put up to it by Branches or individual members and passes them to Council for action. Decisions of fundamental import are referred to Conference by Council.

Conference delegates its authority in educational matters to the Education Committee to which each branch elects representatives.

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Conference also appoints a number of Sub-Committees for special purposes. These Sub-Committees, like the Executive Committee, are usually composed, for convenience, of members from one particular area. The editors of *South African Libraries* and the *Newsletter* which are sent to all members, are also appointed by and responsible to Council.

The federal nature of the Association and the "localization" of its Committees reflect the uneven distribution of population in South Africa. The most difficult task of the Association is to break down the isolation resulting from this distribution, and sense the feelings of members as a whole.

J. W. PERRY.

UNESCO'S ROLE IN BIBLIOGRAPHY

CONFERENCE OF NOVEMBER 1950

The conference on the improving of bibliographical services was held, as arranged, at Unesco House, Paris, from 7 to 10 November 1950.

The conference was composed of 79 persons, representing 38 countries, 16 international organizations, and 4 independent experts. Most of the delegates were representatives of working parties, which had been set up a year before in more than 40 countries to study the conditions of bibliographical services in their respective countries. Other countries, which had been unable to form parties of their own, also sent representatives.

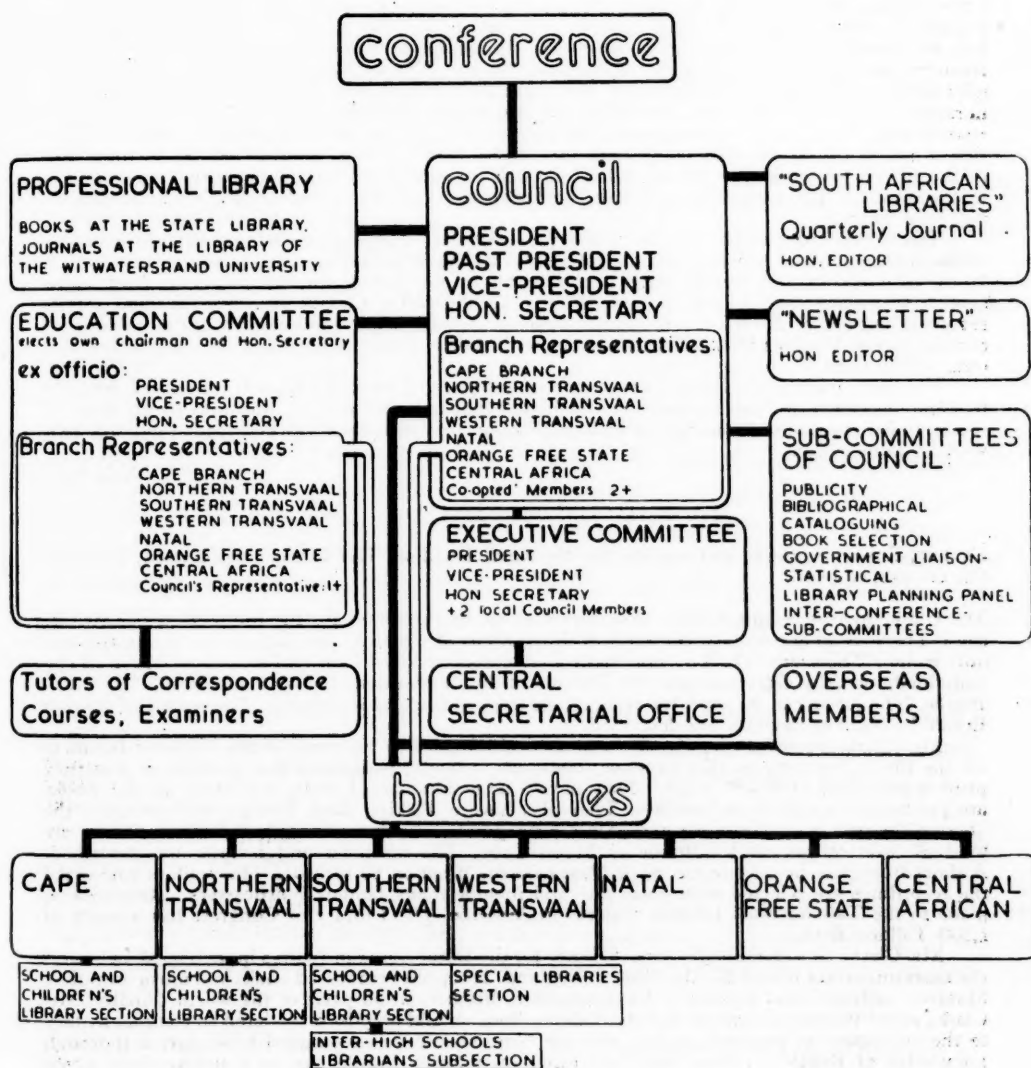
The two volumes of Unesco's survey of bibliographical services and the working paper formed the principal documentation used at the conference.

The discussions and results of the Conference centred around: (1) problems of national bibliography. The establishment of permanent national bodies, with the task of setting up, co-ordinating and rationalizing these services in their own countries was the first and the most important of the recommendations made in this field. Other recommendations had to do with the preparation and publication of national bibliographies, the establishment of national bibliographical information centres, and centres of specialized information. (2) Problems dealing with international co-ordination of bibliography and with the role to be played by Unesco. The Conference recommended the establishment, within Unesco, of a permanent international advisory committee on bibliography. This committee will take stock of publications prepared or published by the United Nations and Specialized Agencies and other international organizations. In addition it will have the task of stimulating and co-ordinating national bibliographical work. The attention of this committee, which will first meet in April or May 1951, will be drawn to the publication of manuals, the establishment of a national or regional centre of bibliography and the preparation of a guide to national bibliographical centres. These are among the most urgent matters suggested for the committee's consideration.

GOVERNMENT LIBRARIES AND RELATED MATTERS

On 8th December, 1950, Mr. S. J. Kritzinger, Chief Government Librarian, gave a talk to the Northern Transvaal Branch of the S.A.L.A. which was largely inspired by Mr. Borland's Presidential Address at the Grahamstown Conference (printed in S.A.L., January, 1951). A summary of Mr. Kritzinger's paper is due to appear in the March, 1951, issue of the S.A.L.A. NEWSLETTER, according to information received as we go to press.

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BOOK REVIEWS

RECORD, P. D. *A survey of thesis literature in British libraries*. London, The Library association 1950. 12 p. 2s. 6d. (2s. to members).

This work is based on a questionnaire sent out by the author in 1949 to university libraries and a few others. The aim of the first part of the survey is to record in each case (1) for what degrees a copy of a thesis is placed in the library of the university; (2) on what conditions such copies may be consulted; (3) whether a list of titles or abstracts is published by the university; (4) what resources are available in the library for tracing theses; (5) conditions of loan; (6) conditions of microfilming. The author admits that as the questionnaire was interpreted differently by different libraries, and as in some cases exact reply was impossible, the information collected could not be standardized. It has however been arranged quite usefully by universities. Briefly it may be noted that in nearly all the eighteen universities included at least one copy of all theses has to be placed in the library where it may be consulted—though in some cases only with author's permission if unpublished. Ten universities publish lists or abstracts of theses and about the same number will lend them.

The second part of the survey covers the existence of foreign theses in British libraries, including the national libraries and the John Rylands, Manchester, in addition to the universities. In the case of some universities it has been possible to give lists of the foreign universities represented, with dates, and it must be noted that while Australia, Canada and New Zealand are all recorded, not one South African university appears. A small section follows giving the holdings of certain special libraries who collect theses in their fields. There is an index of universities and other institutions.

The aptly named Mr. Record has done a useful piece of work, for though it may still be held by some academic authorities that any worthwhile research will find its way into print, there is reason to believe that in these days of high publishing costs and paper shortages much unpublished work of value exists.

A. M. L. R.

CLARKE, Robert S. *Books and reading for the blind*. London, The Library association, 1950. 4s. (3s. 6d. to members).

Mr. Clarke gives a comprehensive description of reading methods for the blind from the earliest ages. There is an appendix with excellent illustrations of old and new methods including the two now in use. These are: (1) The line method invented by Dr. Moon and known as Moon Type and chiefly used by elderly people. (2) The raised dot system invented by Louis Braille known as Braille. The latter can be used for reading, writing, music and shorthand. The means of writing Braille by hand or machine are described.

Mr. Clarke devotes, very rightly, a great deal of space to the work of the National Institute for the Blind. Not only do they produce thousands of books, pamphlets and periodicals but they print a great deal of Braille music. They have a large Students' Library for which all the books are produced by voluntary braillists. They also have a Talking Book Library and circulate the "books" by post in special containers. Mr. Clarke points out what a boon these Talking Books are to those who cannot master Braille or Moon Type. The machines and records are described. A short story may be on one record or *Gone with the Wind* on 80 records. The readers who make the recordings are selected with great care and include many famous broadcasters. Reference is made to the Talking Book Library systems in America. The Library of Congress has a stock of 1,500 Talking Books.

Mr. Clarke considers the National Library for the Blind, London (with a branch in Manchester) the most important library for the blind in England. It supplies embossed books and music to public libraries, institutes and schools in England and to libraries in all parts of the world. Finally, Mr. Clarke says "Wireless reception and the Talking Book should only be considered as complementary to the enjoyment of personal reading and the blind should be encouraged to acquire a thorough knowledge of Braille... More than any other man Louis Braille has, in a unique way, given sight to the blind."

J. E. W.

THE LIBRARY

IN THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY TO-DAY, II¹

R. F. M. IMMELMAN, *Librarian, University of Cape Town*

II. WHAT CAN THE PUBLIC LIBRARY DO FOR ITS COMMUNITY ?

The Future Task of the Library

IN considering what the library can do, the librarian must bear in mind readership patterns and potentials. By potential is meant that which it is possible to attain.² There is a practical potential, viz. all the people in the community already reading books ; and a theoretical potential : all the people who know how to read. In establishing branches, for example, the librarian reckons chiefly with the practical potential, but does not neglect the theoretical. These potentials must be borne in mind throughout this section, as they form the basis thereof.

There is to-day an unremitting striving by librarians to find new ways of stimulating, as well as of responding, to the needs and interests of the community in which libraries are located, besides an eagerness to use new methods of approach which may reach more people.³ Never before has there been so much searching self-examination on the part of librarians to determine how best to contribute the library's share to society. They realize that libraries are valuable instruments whose potentialities have not been fully explored or exploited.

Basic in the whole process of making the public library broadly useful and effective, is the need for it to penetrate into every stratum of community life with its materials and information. The library must become an active agent, as the bridge between accumulated knowledge and the community, between books and readers.⁴ There is need then for a community-centred library and a community-serving library, that is for a reciprocal relationship. The basic function of bringing books and readers together has not changed, but methods of accomplishing the function have changed, multiplied and diversified. There has to be a change from a passive to an active role for libraries. Librarians can implement a programme of dynamic approach to adults, because librarians know that there is not a single aspect of human living into which the library cannot fit and where it could not serve human beings.

¹ Paper read at the S.A.L.A. Annual Conference, Grahamstown, 1950 ; continued from *S.A.L.* Jan. 1951, pp. 83-89

² Joeckel, C. B. ed. : *Reaching Readers. Techniques of extending library services.* University of California press, 1949.

³ Long, F. *op.cit.*, p. 46. ⁴ Long, F. *op.cit.*, p. 63.

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The conditions of modern living compel librarians to think of individuals, whom traditionally libraries have always served, in terms of the groups to which they belong.¹ The approach to individuals through groups is a valuable library development to-day and one which offers a strong possibility of increasing the effectiveness of the public library as an agency of enlightenment, information and pleasure, as well as a centre of local cultural activity. The librarian, therefore, needs not only an over-all knowledge of his community, but he must be able to identify various organizations and groups in his area, which the library is equipped to serve.²

Library service to-day is becoming as specific as possible: book lists or reading guides or library information circulars are directed at particular organizations or groups, not for people at large. By studying the needs and interests of a group, the library can direct its publications and publicity at a particular section of the community. Thus it becomes possible to serve people more satisfactorily by catering for their specific needs. By knowing the group, librarians are better able to cater for individuals composing that group. Moreover, leaders of organizations learn to know a member of the library staff, who is intimately acquainted with their needs and who looks after their sphere of interests in the library, someone moreover who specializes in the library's resources in that field and how the library can best serve that society most effectively.

In connexion with group services one can distinguish between

1. Activities in the library, that is *internal* :
 - (a) Library initiates activities : *direct* service
 - (b) Library supports and aids other organizations : *indirect* aid.
2. Activities beyond the library's walls, that is, *extra-mural* :
 - (a) *direct* service ;
 - (b) *indirect* aid.

This leads one to a consideration of the nature of community organizations and their actual or potential relationship to the library.

Community Organizations and Libraries

In many American libraries to-day I observed the appointment of field representatives whose work is to seek contact with groups, organizations and societies. In the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, Maryland, there are six heads of subject divisions and in addition a co-ordinating chief of advisory services, who integrates all the readers' services in the various divisions in the main library as well as supervising the readers' advisers in the branches. The

¹ Long, F. : *op.cit.*, p. 73.

² Thomsen, C., Edward Sydney and Miriam Tompkins. *Activities for public libraries*. Unesco 1950. p. 73.

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field representative is responsible for the extra-mural services of the library to community groups and organizations.¹ In some libraries (e.g. Akron, Ohio) a special Department of Group Services has been instituted in which all the work with groups and organizations is concentrated. In small libraries it is a member of the staff or the librarian himself who is responsible for the extra-mural activities.

What characterizes these activities or the public library? For example, much attention to-day is devoted by libraries to problems of family life.

Education for Family Life

Librarians address women's societies, church societies, parent-teachers' associations, etc., on children's literature. Discussions about children's books follow. This results ultimately in requests for books about child welfare, child psychology, behaviour problems, character development, etc. Quite naturally this in turn leads on to books about housing, marriage, family budgets, making a home, etc. In some libraries special collections develop about family life, sometimes even a Family Room.² Book lists about family life and problems are supplied to newspapers or church magazines, etc. The library collects all data about organizations which offer services to parents so that people can be referred to them when making enquiries. In one town a weekly "Family Evening" is held in the library building, where films are shown about problems of family life, followed by discussions. An attempt is made to provide something for all members of the family on such occasions. Such programmes are organized in co-operation with a number of churches or other bodies. In Wisconsin the regional library sends material out to rural organizations which draw up programmes and lend books to parents through the post. For rural women who live in isolated places, reading courses are drawn up, e.g. on literature or music and art in the home, about home nursing, the home and the environment, furnishing and decorating the home, and home dressmaking. Books from these lists are posted to such women, one or two at a time in rotation.

Service to Labour Groups

Much attention is devoted by public libraries in many places to labour groups³ or trades unions. In fact, Newark Public Library, New Jersey, has a special collection "Labor in America" containing material on the history of the

¹ Thomsen, Sydney and Tompkins. *op.cit.*, pp. 62, 82.

² Tompkins in Thomsen, Sydney and Tompkins. *op.cit.*, pp. 74-76.

³ Thomsen, Sydney and Tompkins. *op.cit.*, pp. 80-85.

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labour movement, on wages and hours, on trades union-management relations, on labour legislation, on how to conduct a union meeting, on public speaking, on collective bargaining, etc. This Library also issues a monthly leaflet *Labor in print*, sent free to groups and individuals, also to manufacturers, on request : it gives information about the above Labour Collection, about workers' libraries which are collections (with book lists) deposited in factories on request (and changed often), special collections made up to suit group needs, 'phone services by the library for trades union officials, lists of labour speakers, displays of labour materials sent to meetings by the library and lists of speakers from the library staff provided to address trades union meetings on library services and on resources in the field of labour materials.

Libraries are becoming increasingly aware of the fact that neither skilled nor unskilled workers are represented among library readers in proportion to their number in the general population. For example, in Providence, R. I., three annual forums were arranged by trades unions and industrial managers on labour-management relations. On each occasion the public library sent a speaker to start the programme by talking for five minutes about the library's resources in that field, and to leave a supply of prepared book lists specially compiled for the occasion. Exhibits of books and posters were arranged in the hall where the meeting was held. In the library, books on the lists were kept on special shelves near the loan desk to draw attention to them and to be easily available.

Extra-mural Service to Organizations

In all cases the library does not compete with any existing organizations, but seeks to co-operate with them. Initiative for the original contact comes from the librarian, or a specially designated library assistant.

Where there are existing organizations in a field, the library seeks them out, gets acquainted with the scope of their interests and activities and offers such services as it can to aid in carrying out their programme. In Newark, N. J., twelve local organizations co-operate with the public library in arranging three meetings each year on business-community relations, e.g., on annual reports as a special means of interpreting a business to its clientele and town. At such meetings the library exhibits many kinds of annual reports from business firms.

In Louisville, Kentucky, the public library co-operates with the University Extension Department and a local broadcasting station in running "Neighbourhood Clubs", which are available free to all adults. These are really adult education clubs on subjects which people wanted and the need for which are ascertained by library staff. Classes meet in the Library which provides films and

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books.¹ The public library in Seattle, Washington, holds a regular annual "Program Planners Institute" to which many club representatives and secretaries are invited. Each delegate describes the work of his organization, the kind of meetings held and what each club could contribute to other groups, e.g., by providing speakers. Reports on some of the best programmes are given. Then the librarian shows some films, discussions follow, led by a panel of speakers, to demonstrate the use of films as an adjunct to a society's programmes,² and to stimulate discussion. Symposia are presented on how to draw up a club programme, or book review and discussion programmes, or a film and discussion programme. The library staff prepares a *Program Planner's Handbook* which contains sample programmes, lists of films with descriptive notes as to content and where to get each film, a directory of organizations, with address of secretaries, names of speakers in the town with the subject each is prepared to talk on and where to procure exhibits on particular subjects for meetings. In Detroit, sixty organizations co-operated in producing a *Manual of community resources for program planners* and an institute for club leaders was similarly held, with the library collaborating.

In Denmark each library makes an inventory of institutions, schools, societies and organizations, which are engaged in adult education work. Librarians help to co-ordinate the plans of different institutions. The library invites leaders of organizations to a meeting in the library, where each organization can become acquainted with the other's plans, thus avoiding clashes in dates, eliminating unnecessary duplication of activities as well as facilitating the exchange of speakers. Library representatives at preparatory meetings describe services that the library is able to give associations in their activities, in addition to putting rooms at their disposal. The library undertakes to furnish study circles with the necessary literature for the duration of circle activities. The librarian offers to give lessons in the use of the library or to arrange displays at meetings.³ The librarian acts as registrar of meetings in the community: all local associations inform the librarian of meetings and he makes sure that no other meetings are scheduled for the same time. Swedish and Danish librarians feel that the educational problem of reading is their most important task and give much time to participation in study circle work, that is, to help people to absorb what they have read by discussion with others. Discussion evenings are held dealing with books which many readers know and which are yet of current interest. The librarian briefly relates the plot, says a few words about the author and outlines the problems of the book. People then discuss the books they have read with others.

The Derbyshire County Library in England issues a *Panel of speakers and*

¹ Thomsen, Sydney and Tompkins. *op.cit.*, pp. 98-102.

² Thomsen, Sydney and Tompkins. *op.cit.*, pp. 98-102.

³ Kirkegaard, P. *The Public libraries in Denmark*. Copenhagen, Det Danske Selskab, 1950. pp. 36-42, 93-97.

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leaders of discussion groups for the use of organizations in the county. The Maatschappij tot Nut van 't Algemeen, in Holland, issues a *Sprekerslijst* for each area of Holland, giving subject, name and address of speakers, which its affiliated organizations may use to secure speakers on particular subjects in their locality.

Initiating Group Activities

So far I have only dealt with the extra-mural activities of the library, in most of which it collaborates with existing organizations. But the public library may, in addition, initiate activities within the library itself. Many libraries, particularly in England, organize series of lectures, e.g., a lecture is given in a library every fortnight about a musician, then the following week a recital is held of gramophone records of his works. People are able to borrow the records from the library. Lectures about the historic background of the town are generally very popular everywhere. Some libraries hold gramophone recitals during the lunch hour, usually in a hall near the street exit, so that people can slip in and out easily. In the summer the New York Public Library broadcasts such a concert during the lunch hour to a neighbouring park. Many people bring their lunch to eat while listening to the concert. Posters about public library services may be put up while lists of gramophone records and appropriate books on musicians and music may be distributed.

Many libraries also organize play-reading groups in the library building, supplying sets of plays for reading and arranging the cast for each gathering. Frequently a youth parliament is organized or a quiz competition on books. Generally the public library has a hall which may be used for exhibitions or which may be lent to art groups for their own exhibitions. Some libraries in small towns hold frequent displays of good reproductions of art masterpieces. Many libraries establish literary and art societies and arrange the programmes. In Hendon, in England, the public organized an exhibition concerning the activities of twenty-four local societies and published a leaflet with the names of societies, their aims, addresses of secretaries and the nature of their activities. This service is rendered in many Scandinavian, English and American towns by their local libraries.

Libraries to-day concentrate particularly on the establishment of discussion groups under leadership of a staff member of the public library. The library assumes the responsibility for the organization of the groups and arranging the meetings. Discussion groups deal with current problems, community issues, great books of the past or thought-provoking books or groups of current books; in U. S. A. many libraries have groups for discussing "Great Books".¹ The sub-

¹ Adler, Mortimer J.: *Manual for discussion leaders . . . for use in Great Books Community Groups*. University of Chicago Bookstore, 1946.

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ject is introduced by a speaker, or panel of four speakers representing different points of view. The discussion follows under expert leadership, the leader not giving his opinions or making a speech, but throwing provocative questions at the audience.¹ After the audience has taken part, the meeting ends with a brief summing up by the leader. In the "Great books" groups, every person reads the same books before the meeting. At such discussion group meetings the library may have a display of books on the subject being discussed and distribute brief book lists with descriptive notes on books on the subject discussed. Films of a documentary or informative type may be used in conjunction with discussion, the proceedings starting with the film, then followed by discussion of the subject treated in the film or even first a short talk, then discussion. A particular radio programme may similarly be followed by discussion by a local listening group meeting in the library. Gramophone records, radio, documentary films and film-strips are used in conjunction with panels of speakers and followed by discussion. Film forums are found by many libraries to be a useful variant of the straight lecture. Libraries in Scandinavia, United States and Great Britain act as local information bureaux about which films are available on particular subjects, and the sources of films, as well as actually undertaking to borrow the films for societies or individuals. This means that libraries must collect catalogues of documentary films and of film-strips.

The Dynamic Approach

In summing up, I would say that my impression is that not only American libraries, but also British and Scandinavian libraries are becoming increasingly community-conscious, that libraries to-day are much more dynamic as well as enterprising, and take the initiative in exploiting the field of group services. Oliver Garceau in his book *The Public Library in the Political Process*, which is another of the Public Library Inquiry reports, says: "Librarians will profit by constantly reassessing the value of community groups in a rapidly changing and intensely competitive public scene . . . Many librarians in our sample are vaguely aware that their group ties are no longer the most effective, but they undervalue the importance of this or lack the acumen to understand and rework the problem . . . They have allowed a traditional framework to narrow their perspective, or a simplified version of human society to blunt their preception. The rare quality needed is imagination . . . *the new special service relation to groups is a most promising approach*, therefore it keeps librarians aware that the parallelogram of forces in a community is continually changing shape . . . librarians will suc-

¹ Garland, J. V. and Phillip, Chas. F. *Discussion methods explained and illustrated*. New York, H. W. Wilson Co., 1940.

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ceed in so far as they understand their communities, but not through an abstract concept of the citizen . . . the *expediency of working with organization groups should not obscure the highly individual nature of library service*".¹

In other words the library is gaining a new concept of *individualized service* through organizations and groups in the community. In connexion with such group services to its community, the modern public library in most countries, whether it be initiating activities within the library or extra-murally, or co-operating with outside organizations, utilizes :

- (a) Discussion group methods, whether by itself or as an adjunct to lectures, films, radio, television or gramophone record programmes. Discussion group meetings may masquerade under a variety of names : forum, institute, clinic, workshop, or panel discussion.
- (b) All forms of audio-visual communication, either singly or in combination : gramophone records, radio broadcasts, film-strips, documentary films, discussions or lectures.
- (c) Services to existing community organizations and societies, or establishes new library-sponsored group activities.
- (d) Assistance to adult education in all forms and as closely as it can, in as many ways as possible.

As an excellent guide and summary of this modern trend I would strongly recommend to the attention of all public librarians the Unesco publication : *Adult education activities for public libraries* (1950) in which Carl Thomsen writes on adult education work by Danish libraries, Edward Sydney of Leyton in a meaty but concise section, on the work of British public libraries in this field and professor Miriam Tompkins on the adult education services of American public libraries.

In all cases these activities are related to books, by means of book-lists ; reading guides ; posters and leaflets regarding library services in such fields ; lists of films or gramophone records as well as books ; book or pamphlet displays combined with posters, pictures and maps ; and in many other ways, depending on the individual ingenuity of the librarian. That is, by supplying well-known methods of library publicity in addition to the group service approach, the library endeavours to make its resources of all kinds of book and non-book materials known to that particular section of the community to which it may be of greatest value. The library seeks actively to promote its potential usefulness to all sections of its community to the utmost extent, in as great a variety of ways as it can.²

Finally, in attempting to link up the first part of this paper with the second,

¹ Garceau, O. : *The Public Library in the Political Process*. New York, Columbia University press, 1949. pp. 149-150.

² Wellard, J. H. *The public library comes of age*. London, Grafton, 1940, pp. 77-87.

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I wish to draw attention to the last chapter in Berelson's *The Library's Public* called "Implications for Library Policy"¹ in which he asserts that library users, whatever their number, are not a cross-section of the population of any community, although it is true that individuals from every walk of life in the community are found among its clientele. But as a group, library users have clear characteristics: library users are young, half are children and another large proportion are young people of 16-20 years of age; as a group, the library's clientele is better educated than the population as a whole; skilled workers use it more than the unskilled; the unmarried more than the married (especially young married people with children); those who live near the library more than those who have to travel far. But the library does not attract users in proportion to their relative size in the population of the community and therefore it is not a real cross-section of the community. Library users are self-selected and a more or less distinctive group, largely middle class. It is remarkable that library users have such a wide interest in and make such a large use of all media of communication. Library users then are largely interested in sources of ideas and information, which proves that they show a tendency to be community leaders, i.e., people who influence others. Therefore the public library exercises an important *indirect* influence on its community, through the influence of these leaders on the rest of the population.

Actual use of the library is highly concentrated among a relatively few users. Most adults do not use the library at all, some infrequently, and a few a great deal. A small group of people account for a large proportion of the library's activity. Most of the library's services go to only a minority of the adult population and to only a few of its users. It is quite apparent that certain sections of the population are not reached by libraries: the public library often states as an important objective its interest in improving citizenship by enlightening people on public affairs, yet the very groups who are least enlightened are precisely groups making least use of the public library. The very people who need library service most are the ones who have not been reached by the public library as yet.

The library's problem then remains to-day how to bring about optimum use of its resources. Two significant social trends are relative thereto:

- (1) A steady rise in the educational level of the whole population resulting from an ever-extending period of education. This means that as education is so closely related to library use, the library can expect more users and greater use of better materials in future. By comparing the nature and extent of use fifty years ago and to-day, this statement is borne out.
- (2) The revolution in communication. Technical advances in radio, films, television, audio-visual materials, etc., have enormously increased audiences, and new sections of the population are influenced by them

¹ Berelson, B., *op.cit.*, pp. 122-135.

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to use library resources they have never before used, particularly if the library realizes that all forms of communication are its field and not only the printed book.

The purpose of this paper has been to draw the attention of librarians in South Africa to some relevant data which are occupying the attention of librarians in other countries regarding the general question of how to make public libraries more effective and how we can more purposefully provide maximum library service to the community to-day. Some librarians may think I have been defeatist in pointing out what a relatively small section of the community is at present reached by public libraries, but on the contrary I am convinced that by facing facts we can in future face up to our task more effectively (namely that of serving the unserved sections of the community), if we know which groups are unserved, what their needs and interests are. There is no limit to the potentialities of library service to-day, provided librarians are prepared to render a dynamic type of service in the light of to-day's problems and needs.

CARELESS VISITORS

"Friendship is a compound of qualities; respect is one of them. Here is a very small matter—as in an acorn. A careless visitor in a library, or a theater, or a school, discards a piece of paper or a cigaret butt. Allowed to lie on the floor, it serves as a magnet. Successive visitors, thinking 'These people don't care how their place looks', add their tithes to the untidiness. As a result, some respect for the establishment goes, some friends are lost. An alert public relations policy would try to persuade the public, by means of signs and word of mouth, against such defacement and would see that carelessness was remedied before damage to prestige was done. In such an effort there should be co-operation by every member of the organization."

Thomas Gilbert Brown, from *The Nub of Public Relations*, printed in the *Bulletin to the Schools* of the University of the State of New York, October, 1949.

LIBRARIANS OFF DUTY

At the end of 1950, an exhibition was held in Foyle's Art Gallery, London, of paintings and handicrafts by librarians, with the title "Librarians off Duty".

MAKERERE COLLEGE LIBRARY KAMPALA, UGANDA

Makerere College Library originated in 1938 to serve the needs of the future university of East Africa. The College now has the status of a university college, and its library is probably the largest in East Africa, comprising about 18,000 bound volumes, and a large collection of unbound pamphlets and government publications. The library is classified by the Dewey Decimal system, and books are available for reference or borrowing by present and past members of the College. Linked with the main College library is the important and rapidly growing library of the Makerere College Medical School situated a few miles away.

DIE VRYSTAATSE PROVINSIALE BIBLIOTEEKDIENS

ontwikkeling, aard en doel

H. M. ROBINSON, *Vrystaatse Provinsiale Biblioteekorganiseerder*

Tot in die dertigerjare het 'n vrye openbare biblioteekdiens in die Oranje-Vrystaat bykans nie bestaan nie, met die uitsondering van enkele klein biblioteke wat hulle dienste gratis aan hul gemeenskappe gebied het. Die belangstelling in biblioteekdienste was egter vroeg reeds aanwesig, en as gevolg van hierdie begeerte wat by individue sowel as by organisasies bestaan het om biblioteekdienste in die Vrystaat te verbeter het die vrye biblioteekbeweging in die Oranje-Vrystaat ontstaan.

VRYSTAATSE BOEKEDIENS

Stigting

Mevrou E. D. M. Venter, die toenmalige Presidente van die Vrystaatse Vroue Landbou-unie het alle kultuurliggame uitgenooi om op 14 Mei 1941 'n vergadering op Bloemfontein by te woon, wat belê is deur die Vrystaatse V.L.U. met die doel om „'n vrye biblioteekdiens to reël”.

Uit hierdie vergadering het die Vrystaatse Boekediens / Free State Book Service tot stand gekom. Daar is ooreengekom dat alle verenigings—en veral plattelandse takke van verenigings—versoek sou word om by die beoogde biblioteekskema aan te sluit. Van verenigings sou 'n jaarlikse bydrae verlang word en sou verder verwag word om die beheer en administrasie van die biblioteek op die platteland waar te neem. Daar is egter uit die staanspoor beklemtoon dat „... die verspreiding (van boeke) deur die plattelandse sentra *kosteloos* moet wees aan alle (volwasse) persone, en nie net aan lede van een of ander vereniging nie”.

Lidmaatskap

Van plattelandse verenigings wat van die diens gebruikgemaak het is verwag :

(i) om hul eie kassies te voorsien vir die versending van boeke (lateraan was die Boekediens self in staat om hiervoor te sorg);

(ii) om 'n finansiële bydrae te stort van minstens £1 per jaar vir die gedeeltelike dekking van spoorgeld. (Verenigings kon een verteenwoordiger benoem op die bestuur van die Boekediens vir elke £10 wat hul bygedra het.)

SUID-AFRIKAANSE BIBLIOTEKE

Administrasie

Die Bloemfonteinse Openbare Biblioteek het gratis huisvesting aan die Boekediens verskaf en lede van die personeel het eers vrywillig, en later deelyds die werk behartig. Gulle bydraes en skenkings van boeke is uit alle oorde ontvang en die Vrystaatse Boekediens kon sy werk voortsit. Kissies, elk waarvan 50 boeke kon bevat, is in die Bloemfonteinse Openbare Biblioteek volgepak en na plattelandse sentra versprei vanwaar hulle dan weer per spoor teruggestuur is vir omruiling. Hierdie metode van boekverspreiding is reeds vroeër in die Vrystaat toegepas deur die Sekretaris van die O. V. S. Onderwysersvereniging (Mnr. Thos Blok) wat 'n „kassiebiblioteek” van studieboeke op die platteland laat sirkuleer het vir die gebruik van onderwysers. Ook was daar plaaslike ondernemings soos die Lindleyse Lenteskoolbiblioteek waar boeke in kissies gesirkuleer het.

Afgesien van die paar vrye openbare biblioteke (Kroonstad, Clocolan, Harrismith en Boshof) is daar met die Vrystaatse Boekediens vir die eerste keer gepoog om 'n gratis biblioteekdiens vir die Vrystaatse platteland te verskaf. Gesien die bevinding van die Borland-rapport dat daar tot 1947 slegs 33 biblioteke in die hele provinsie bestaan het, kan lig begryp word dat die nuwe diens vir die platteland iets vreemds was. Dit het egter spoedig ingeslaan en teen 1947 is 56 sentra bedien met 'n boekevoorraad van 6,345. Die Vrystaatse Provinsiale Administrasie het in hierdie jaar reeds £3,000 tot die Boekediens bygedra en gevolglik is gevoel dat die diens op vaste grondslag geplaas en deur die Administrasie oorgeneem behoort te word.

Oorname deur O. V. S. Prov. Administrasie

Daar is gevolglik by die Vrystaatse Uitvoerende Komitee aanbeveel dat :

- (a) die Boekediens deur die Provinsiale Administrasie oorgeneem word, en
- (b) dat Mnr. E. A. Borland (Transvaalse Biblioteekorganiseerder) gesekondeer word om 'n opname te maak van biblioteektoestande in die Vrystaat en om 'n ontwikkelingsprogram aan te beveel.

Borland-rapport (Nie gepubliseer nie)

Albei hierdie aanbevelinge is deur die Uitvoerende Komitee aanvaar—die Boekediens is deur die Provinsiale Administrasie oorgeneem en in 1947 het Mnr. E. A. Borland die Provinsie deurreis ; 'n opname gemaak van bestaande biblioteektoestande, en 'n program aan die hand gedoen vir verdere ontwikkeling.

(i) *Bevindinge* : Die volgende is 'n paar van die belangrikste bevindings van die Borland-verslag, en werp 'n lig op die biblioteektoestande in die Vrystaat in 1947 :

- (a) Van die 201,119 blankes in die O. V. S. het slegs 9,500 van biblioteke gebruik gemaak (d. w. s. ongeveer 4.5 persent).

DIE VRYSTAATSE PROVINSIALE BIBLIOTEEKDIENS

(b) Van die 86 plaaslike owerhede het slegs 33 biblioteke besit en hiervan was slegs vier vry. Al die ander het subskripsies gehef wisselende van 2s. 6d. tot 30s. per jaar. Hierbenewens het die Vrystaatse Boekediens kiste boeke versprei aan 56 sentra, terwyl daar ook 'n aantal private leeskringe bestaan het onder beskerming van liggame soos die V. L. U., die O. V. V. en die Helpmekaar.

(c) Daar was 'n algehele gebrek aan koördinasie, want ten spyte van die ontoereikende fasiliteite het daar nogtans duplikasie van dienste in sommige dorpe bestaan.

(d) Wat personeel betref is die Bloemfonteinse openbare biblioteek behartig deur 'n personeel van 10 ; drie dorpe het 'n personeel gehad bestaande uit twee ; agtien het deelydse en nog 11 het slegs vrywillige bibliotekaris/esses gehad.

(e) Slegs ses plattelandse openbare biblioteke het enigsins doeltreffende geboue gehad, waarvan sommige aan die stadsrade en ander aan die biblioteek-komitees behoort het.

(f) Die totale boekevoorraad van openbare biblioteke in die Vrystaat was 155,000. Hiervan het 'n groot gedeelte uit die Victoriaanse tydperk dateer en was in 'n baie swak toestand.

(g) Die totale bedrag wat stadsrade aan biblioteke bestee het (Bloemfontein ingesluit) het £6,673 beloop.

(ii) *Aanbevelinge* : Daar dit geblyk het dat die plaaslike owerhede sonder die hulp van die Provinsiale Administrasie nie veel kon doen om die heersende biblioteektoestande te verbeter nie, is onder meer die volgende aanbevelings gedoen :

(a) Dat die Provinsiale Administrasie die verantwoordelikheid aanvaar vir die verskaffing van biblioteekdienste aan alle inwoners van die Oranje-Vrystaat.

(b) Dat die Vrystaatse Boekediens deur die Administrasie beheer en uitgebrei word om die hele Provinsie te bedien (Vir hierdie doel moet 'n Sentrale Biblioteek te Bloemfontein en drie Streekbiblioteke (Bloemfontein, Bethlehem en Kroonstad) gestig word—die geheel waarvan bekend sal staan as die Vrystaatse Provinsiale Biblioteek.)

(c) Dat munisipaliteite gevra word om hulle deel by te dra tot die koste verbonde aan die skema deur verskaffing van behoorlike huisvesting en 'n jaarlikse geldelike bydrae tot salarisse, tydskrifte, skryfmateriaal en ander uitgawes van die plaaslike biblioteek.

(d) Dat „biblioteekdépôts” in plattelandse gebiede gestig word.

(e) Dat die Vrystaatse Boekediens as 'n tydelike maatregel administreer word en dat onmiddelik stappe geneem word vir die aanstelling van 'n permanente biblioteekorganiseerder.

Dr. S. H. Pellissier as Biblioteekorganiseerder

Ná sy aftrede as Direkteur van Onderwys is Dr. S. H. Pellissier in 1948 aangestel as tydelike Biblioteekorganiseerder. Dr. Pellissier het iedere dorp

SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARIES

in die Provinsie besoek, die voorgestelde diens aan plaaslike belanghebbendes verduidelik, en sentra van die Vrystaatse Boekediens gestig op alle dorpe in die O. V. S. Verder het hy op plekke waar nog geen biblioteke bestaan het nie, die samestelling van Biblioteekkomitees en die oprigting van plaaslike biblioteekgeboue gepropageer.

Onthou sal word dat Dr. Pellissier nog steeds 'n kampvegter vir die biblioteeksaak was, en geweldig veel gedoen het vir die verbetering van skoolbiblioteke in die Vrystaat. Deur sy goeie organisasiewerk het die instelling van 'n provinsiale biblioteekdiens vir die O. V. S. dus met rasse skrede gevorder :

(a) Die Borlandverslag is in sy geheel aanvaar en die Vrystaatse Boekediens (Free State Book Service) is amptelik verdoop tot Die Vrystaatse Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens (Free State Provincial Library Service).

(b) Drie Reisende Biblioteke is aangekoop en gebou vir die bediening van die hele provinsie.

(c) 'n Gebou is in Bloemfontein opgerig vir die huisvesting van die Sentrale Biblioteek en van die Bloemfonteinse Streekbiblioteek.

(d) Die oprigting van die twee Streekbiblioteekgeboue te Kroonstad en Bethlehem teen 'n koste van ongeveer £8,500 elk, is goedgekeur.

(e) Die aantal biblioteeksentra is sodanig uitgebrei dat teen die begin van 1950 ongeveer 128 openbare biblioteke en dépôts bedien is.

(f) Vir die jaar 1950-51 het die Provinsiale Raad 'n bedrag van £21,250 gestem vir biblioteekdoeleindes, teenoor £3,000 vir 1947-48.

(g) Op drie dorpe is plaaslike biblioteekgeboue óf verbeter óf opnuut opgerig, terwyl op vier verdere dorpe aan planne van nuwe geboue gewerk word.

Daar kan dus met reg en groot waardering gekonstateer word dat die Vrystaatse Boekediens 'n onskatbare diens verrig het om die Vrystaatse platteland biblioteekbewus te maak ; om die provinsiale en plaaslike owerhede sowel as die publiek te oortuig van die waarde en noodsaaklikheid van 'n vrye openbare biblioteekdiens, maar veral om te dien as hegte basis waarop die Vrystaatse Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens voortgebou kon word.

VRYSTAATSE PROVINSIALE BIBLIOTEEK

Op 1 Februarie 1950 het Mnr. H. M. Robinson diens aanvaar as permanente Biblioteekorganiseerder vir die O. V. S. en kort daarna (op 17 April) het die Administrateur die drie Reisende Biblioteke amptelik in ontvangs geneem en die eerste van die drie Streekbiblioteke vir die Suidelike Vrystaat op Bloemfontein geopen. Die ander twee Streekbiblioteke (Bethlehem en Kroonstad) sal in werking tree sodra huisvesting daarvoor gereed is.

DIE VRYSTAATSE PROVINSIALE BIBLIOTEEKDIENS

Adviserende Komitee

Die Vrystaatse Provinsiale Biblioteek ressorteer onder die algemene afdeling van die Vrystaatse Provinsiale Administrasie. 'n Komitee wat in suiwer adviseerende hoedanigheid optree is egter deur die Administrateur benoem en is vir 1950 as volg saamgestel :

Voorsitter : Dr. S. H. Pellissier ; Sekretaris : Die Biblioteekorganiseerder ; Lede : Dr. G. J. Beukes (namens Bloemfonteinse Openbare Bibl.) Dr. S. J. du Toit (namens O. V. S. Onderwysdepartement) ; Mnr. A. Marquard (namens plattelandse biblioteke) ; Mevr. J. B. Naude (namens die O. V. V.) ; Mnr. H. C. van Niekerk (namens plattelandse biblioteke) ; Mevr. E. D. M. Venter (Namens Vrystaatse V.L.U.).

Streekbiblioteke

Vir biblioteekdoeleindes is die Vrystaat verdeel in drie streke—Bloemfontein, Bethlehem en Kroonstad in elk waarvan 'n streekbiblioteek en 'n reisende biblioteek gevestig word onder beheer van 'n opgeleide streekbibliotekaris. Vanuit die streekbiblioteke word boeke na plattelandse sentra versprei deur middel van die reisende biblioteke, deur die pos en per spoor. Die streekbiblioteke sal verder ook dien as sentrale biblioteke en as koördinasiesentra vir hulle betrokke gebiede. Die streekbibliotekarisse sal ook beskikbaar wees vir die verlening van tegniese hulp en advies aan die openbare biblioteke binne hul betrokke gebiede.

Boeke vir die hele organisasie word egter in Bloemfontein aangekoop en voorberei vir uitreiking, en in Bloemfontein word ook die Sentrale Naslaanbiblioteek vir die hele organisasie gehuisves. Naslaanmateriaal sal hiervandaan versprei word na alle plattelandse lesers, en/of verlangde inligting oor bepaalde onderwerpe sal hier nageslaan en aan enige plattelandse leser verstrek word.

Lidmaatskap

Boeke en ander bepaalde dienste word deur streekbiblioteke gelewer aan geregistreerde biblioteeksentra wat van tyd tot tyd goedgekeur word. As sodanige sentra mag dien :

(a) Die *openbare biblioteke* van dorpe met 'n blanke bevolking van minder as 10,000 op voorwaarde dat so'n biblioteek deur sy plaaslike owerheid (stadsraad/dorpsbestuur) :

- (i) behoorlik en gratis gehuisves word ;
- (ii) finansieël ondersteun word deur 'n jaarlikse hydrae van minstens 2s. per kop van die blanke bevolking binne die betrokke dorpsgebied ;
- (iii) behoorlik geadministreer word en onder toesig geplaas word van 'n verantwoordelike komitee.

(Tans is Bloemfontein die enigste stad in die Provinsie met 'n blanke bevolking van meer as 10,000, en die Prov. Administrasie het dan onderneem om

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voorlopig vir 'n tydperk van drie jaar 'n geldelike toelaag aan die Bloemfonteinse Stadsraad te betaal ten behoeve van die biblioteek. Hierdie toelae staan gelyk aan ongeveer 1s. per kop van die blanke bevolking van Bloemfontein per jaar—vir 1950-51 het dit £1,500 beloop.)

(b) *Biblioteekdépôts* waaronder ressorteer verskillende soorte van byeenkomplekke van plattelandse mense (b.v. plaasskole, plaasposkantore, debatsverenigings, boereverenigings, winkels en stasies). Van die gemeenskap wat deur die dépôt bedien sal word, word dan verwag om :

(i) die biblioteekdépôt gratis bevredigend te huisves ;

(ii) die biblioteek onder die sorg te plaas van 'n verantwoordelike bibliotekaris/esse, en

(iii) die biblioteek bevredigend te administreer ten voordele van die hele blanke gemeenskap van die omgewing.

Die bostaande voorwaardes van lidmaatskap van die Vrystaatse Provinsiale Biblioteek vorm die kern van die bepalinge van die Reëls en Regulasies soos deur die Vrystaatse Uitvoerende Komitee vasgelê, en waarkragtens die diens tans funksioneer totdat 'n ordonnansie vir die instelling van die diens deur die Vrystaatse Provinsiale Raad aangeneem is.

Doelstellinge

Die doelstelling van die Vrystaatse Provinsiale Biblioteek behels die „Verskaffing van 'n vrye (gratis) openbare biblioteekdiens aan alle blanke bewoners van die Provinsie van die Oranje Vrystaat” en sluit in die lewering van dienste soos die verskaffing van boeke, die leen en verkryging van boeke op spesiale aanvraag deur lesers, die verstrekking van inligting oor onderwerpe waarin lesers mag belangstel, die verskaffing van boeke aan lesers op dié interbiblioteekstelsel, opstel en verspreiding van lêktuurlyste oor bepaalde onderwerpe of van ge-annoteerde lyste van nuwe aanwinste of aanbevole werke, die koördinasie van bestaande biblioteek-fasiliteite binne die provinsie, en die algemene verbetering van die standaard van biblioteekdienste binne die Provinsie en veral op die Vrystaatse Platteland. „Die Vrystaatse Provinsiale Biblioteekdiens strewe na die erkenning van die Biblioteek as noodsaaklike sosiale diensinrigting en as die erkende bron van vrye voortgesette onderwys binne elke gemeenskap.”

Ontwikkeling

Die onderstaande gegewens geneem uit die maandverslae van die streekbibliotekaris van die Suidelike Vrystaat vir die ses maande 1 Mei 1950-31 Oktober 1950 toon die ontwikkeling in die gebied van die een streekbiblioteek wat tans in werking is. Die aantal lede het gestyg vanaf 3665 in Mei tot 6904 in Oktober. Oor die ses maande is 69,225 boeke in die suidelike Vrystaat gelees. 614 spesiale

DIE VRYSTAATSE PROVINSIALE BIBLIOTEEKDIENS

aansoeke is deur die streekbibliotekaris ontvang waarvan 447 voorsien is, en daar is tans 14,600 boeke van die Bloemfonteinse Streekbiblioteek in sirkulasie by sentra.

Wat betref die organisasie as geheel is die toestand op 31. 10. 50 as volg:

Aantal boeke	73,682
Personeel	12
Aantal kiste versend oor tydperk 1. 1. 1950 tot 31. 10. 1950 ..	255
*Aantal boeke uitgeleen oor tydperk 1. 1. 1950 tot 31. 10. 1950	45,550
Totale aantal sentra bedien soos op 31. 10. 1950	129

Die Vrystaatse Provinsiale Biblioteek geniet die volle ondersteuning nie alleen van die plattelandse kulturele organisasies nie maar ook van die Provinsiale-Onderwys en ander regerings-owerhede van die Vrystaat. Voorts bestaan daar die nouste samewerking met die biblioteke van die stad Bloemfontein sowel as met biblioteke buite die Provinsie, en daar kan dus gehoop word dat die organisasie binne die volgende paar jaar en met die nodige aanwas van boeke en toerusting sy plek sal volstaan om saam met ander soortgelyke inrigtings die bevordering van die Suid-Afrikaanse biblioteekwese in die hand te werk.

N. Y. P. L. CENTRALIZES PROCESSING

Details of the working of the Processing Office of the New York Public Library are given in the *Library Journal* for July, 1950. A useful list of the actual equipment is appended.

OLD FOLKS

With increased expectation of life the number of old people in most communities is larger than it used to be and is still growing. The press reminds us of this very frequently. It would surely seem that the public library has a very special function to play in the lives of older people, but we hear little of it. All the more interesting, therefore, is the note in the July, 1950, issue of the *Library Journal* on the activities of the "Sixty-plus Club" of the Cuyahoga County Public Library. The Club holds a regular luncheon meeting followed by book reviews, films, singing and a visiting period.

DEPOSITORY LIBRARY IN SWEDEN

The Swedish Association for Technical Documentation (Tekniska Litteratursällskapet—TLS) has founded a depository for scientific papers that are too long or too specialized for publication in extenso (T.L.S. Dokumenttjänst). This depository is at the K. Tekniska Hogskolans bibliotek, Stockholm.

Revue de la Documentation, September, 1950.

* Slegs uitreiking van sentrale biblioteek aan sentra en nie plaaslike sirkulasie nie.

BOOK REVIEWS

UNITED STATES. Library of Congress. General reference and bibliography division. *Microfilms and microcards : their use in research; a select list of references*. Washington. Library of Congress, 1950. 81 p. Mimeographed. 55 cents.

The purpose of this bibliography is "to indicate the sources from which may be gained understanding of the history, development, spread, and present utility of microfilms and microcards. Types of material which may be located through the use of existing catalogue and lists have been emphasized as well as the services that make the reproductions available."

SPOHR, Otto H., comp. *A catalogue of books, pamphlets and periodicals published in German relating to South Africa and South-West Africa as found in the Jagger library, University of Cape Town*. Cape Town, University, School of Librarianship, 1950. 71 p. Stencilled. 8s.

This is a consecutively numbered alphabetical author list comprising 350 items. It is followed by (a) a "classified list", i.e. Dewey classification numbers with references to the items and (b) alphabetical subject headings again referring back to the items.

SAUL, C. Daphne; comp. *South African periodical publications 1800-1875, a bibliography . . .* Cape Town, University, School of Librarianship, 1949. 45 p. Stencilled. 10s.

This bibliography is limited to periodical publications actually printed and published in South Africa and includes the holdings of the Johannesburg Public Library, Library of Parliament, Port Elizabeth Public Library, South African Public Library, University of Cape Town Library and University of the Witwatersrand Library. The arrangement is under broad subject headings, i.e. almanacs and directories, general and literary periodicals, agriculture and commerce, religion (including missions) vernacular periodicals issued from mission presses, medicine and temperance.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Library of Congress.

Departmental and divisional manuals.

- no. 1. Stack and reader division, Reference department.
- no. 2. Copyright cataloging division. (40 cents)
- no. 3. Subject cataloging division. (40 cents)
- no. 4. Catalog maintenance division. (25 cents)
- no. 5. Binding division. (25 cents)
- no. 6. Exchange and gift division. (25 cents)
- no. 7. Copyright office. (30 cents)
- no. 8. Descriptive cataloging division. (60 cents)
- no. 9. Serials division. (25 cents)
- no. 10. Legislative reference service. (50 cents)

The wide interest aroused by the Library of Congress's first manual on the Stack and Reader Division, Reference Department, published in 1946, resulted in a decision to make the publication of this series one of the highlights of the publications programme for 1950, the Library's sesquicentennial year. The manuals listed above have now been issued and a revised version of the 1946 edition of no. 1 is promised shortly. All these manuals can be purchased from the Card Division, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D. C. They should be of very great use to South African librarians, particularly those who are engaged in compiling their own staff manuals on, of course, a much smaller scale.

ROUSSEAU, Jean-Jacques. *Le nouveau Dédale*. A reproduction of the first edition with an introduction by members of the staff of the Aeronautics division, Library of Congress. Pasadena, Institute of aeronautical history, [1950 ?] 17, 16 p. (Libraries may obtain free copies on application to the Information and Publications Office, Library of Congress; copies are not available for distribution to individuals.)

HISTORICAL SURVEY OF THE MORE IMPORTANT LIBRARIES IN THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

XIV. VEREENIGING PUBLIC LIBRARY

*Compiled by S. J. KRITZINGER, Chief Librarian, Government Service*¹

In February, 1921, a public meeting was convened by the late Mr. Berkowitz, Mayor of Vereeniging, for the purpose of re-establishing the library, which had been established under the aegis of the Vereeniging Municipality in 1912 with a book stock numbering about seven hundred volumes. This had been allowed to fade out of existence and for some years the books had been lying neglected in the municipal offices. A temporary committee was elected and, at a later meeting in September of the same year, Mr. D. Rees was elected Chairman. Mrs. Bannister and Mr. Mullineaux agreed to act jointly as Honorary Secretary and Librarian. A subscription was charged and this arrangement continued until 1946, when the Library became "free". Two rooms were rented in Beaconsfield Avenue and the Municipality agreed to pay the rent of £6 per month in the form of a municipal grant. Minutes of the early history of the Library stress two great difficulties experienced by those early pioneers, namely lack of finances and accommodation. In 1923 the Library Committee was offered a room inside the Town Hall. This was accepted and the Library remained there until 1932, when it moved to somewhat improved premises in Beaconsfield Avenue. As this accommodation became totally inadequate, owing to the phenomenal expansion of the Library, the Town Council purchased a dwelling-house in the civic centre of the town, which was converted into very satisfactory premises for the Library. This is intended to bridge the gap until such time as a permanent library building can be erected. The Library moved to this building on the 1st September, 1949. Since July, 1946, no subscription nor deposit has been charged and intending borrowers are only required to complete a prescribed form. The Library is administered by a Library Committee of nine members, *viz.* 3 Councillors, the town Clerk, the Principal of the Witwatersrand Technical College, 3 teachers appointed by the School Board and one member of the public appointed by the Council, the Chairman to be a Councillor.

¹ Revised by the Librarians of the respective libraries. See note in *S. Afr. Libr.* 13 (4) 79, Apr. 1946.

SUID-AFRIKAANSE BIBLIOTEKE

BOOK STOCK

Adult

<i>English :</i>	Fiction :	5,829		
	Non-Fiction :	3,028	Total :	8,857
<i>Afrikaans :</i>	Fiction :	1,514		
	Non-Fiction :	449	Total :	1,963

Children's Section

<i>English :</i>	1,537
<i>Afrikaans :</i>	2,695

Total bookstock : 13,515

During 1948-49, 4,532 books were added and 1,611 withdrawn. The books are classified and arranged according to the Dewey Decimal Classification and a dictionary card catalogue is in use.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Previous to 1947, the Council had made yearly grants-in-aid to the Library which increased progressively from £60 per annum in 1921 to £1,250 per annum in 1946. In 1947, when the Library was taken over by the Council, library expenditure was included in the Council's annual estimates and allocated according to votes. For 1949-50 the vote was as follows :

Salaries, wages and allowances :	£2,459
Books and Bookbinding :	1,340
Newspapers and Periodicals :	70
Contribution to capital outlay :	1,355
(This includes the cost of converting the dwelling house into library Premises.)	

MEMBERSHIP

Adults : 3,769 ; Children : 1,183 ; Total : 4,952.

The European population of Vereeniging is approximately 12,500.

HISTORICAL SURVEY OF THE IMPORTANT LIBRARIES

SPECIAL SERVICES

1. *Children's Department*

This section of the library was started in 1935 in a corner of the library, with a membership of approximately 250. In the present building a bright, attractive room, with a separate entrance, is provided for the children, and is open for eight hours every day. The children's library has been free since its inception and also no deposit is required.



Wally Scott Studios, Vereeniging.

VEREENIGING PUBLIC LIBRARY

A special service is provided for children living in the suburbs : there are weekly visits to the schools, when books from the Children's Library are issued by members of the Library staff. At the end of June, 1949, the statistical position was as follows : membership : 1,183 ; circulation : 13,315 ; stock : 2,695. During the year 1,318 books were purchased.

2. *Non-European Library Service*

In October, 1947, a library service was started by the Council at the Sharpeville Native Township for the inhabitants of the Vereeniging locations. The library is entirely free and a full-time Bantu librarian is in charge. The Librarian from the Vereeniging Public Library visits the Library regularly and superintends all the work. A Bantu library committee conducts the internal administration and this serves a very good purpose. The estimated cost of this library service

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has increased from £349 in 1948-49 to £497 in 1949-50. The end of June 1949 statistics showed: Membership: 960 (adults: 372, juvenile: 588); Circulation 4,250 (English: 3,539, Afrikaans: 425, vernacular: 286). During the year 565 books were acquired.

3. *Hospital Service*

In June, 1949, a long planned and eagerly awaited library service was inaugurated at the local hospital. Once a week two members of the Library staff and voluntary helpers visit the wards with two book trolleys (purchased from funds collected from the public) and stocked with new English and Afrikaans books. A small room has been set aside in the hospital for the use of the library. In the near future a library and reading room is to be erected in the grounds of the hospital at an estimated cost of £800—books and fittings to cost £500 (funds collected for the hospital by the Ladies' Committee). The service is greatly appreciated by staff and patients alike, and is already proving indispensable.

4. *Government Village Library*

In response to a request from the Vereeniging Government Village Residents' Committee, a branch library was established at the local Government Village in March, 1949. Accommodation and the services of a voluntary librarian are supplied by the Residents' Committee and the books by the Vereeniging Public Library. A member of the Public Library staff visits the branch twice a month to superintend the work and exchange the stock.

STAFF ESTABLISHMENT

The present staff consists of the Librarian and five assistants, who are members of the Town Council's staff, and as such enjoy the same pension and leave privileges as other municipal employees. The Library staff falls within the orbit of the Council's salary grading scheme. The Library is in charge of a Librarian, who, in the case of the present incumbent, is a married woman and, therefore, not eligible for appointment to the Council's permanent staff. Senior Library assistants in possession of the Elementary Certificate of the South African Library Association are on the salary grade: £270x22x356. Junior Library assistants with matriculation are on the salary grade: £210x20x270.

<i>Librarians</i>	Mrs. Bannister	} (Honorary)	1921-1923
	Mr. Mullineaux		
	Miss E. Anderson	(Honorary)	1923-1925
	Mrs. Anderson		1925-1928
	Miss S. Fourie		1929-1933
	Mrs. T. Visser (formerly van der Westhuizen, née Lotter)		1933-

SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION

S.A.L.A. Southern Transvaal Branch

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SPECIAL AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES AS SOURCES OF RESEARCH MATERIAL AND INFORMATION¹

F. G. VAN DER RIET, *Librarian, Rhodes University, Grahamstown*

ONE of the most marked developments in the evolution of scientific research during the last twenty years has been the growing cleavage between fundamental research on the one hand and research in the applied sciences or in technology on the other. Fundamental research is still the preserve of the university, its traditional home, but the conduct of research in the fields of applied science has largely passed into the hands of industry and of institutions directly controlled by Government Departments, where it is financed, directed and co-ordinated to a degree which clearly indicates the importance assigned to it. The proper conduct of research in the applied sciences is to-day a matter of economic necessity, and is also connected with national security, and it is not surprising therefore to find that it has received most generous provision in the way of funds and that it is being organized with considerable administrative ingenuity.

Since literature is so important to research we are not surprised to find that the organization of literature and of libraries in the service of applied science has reached a high level of efficiency. In fact we find that the traditional library has become transformed and that a new type of library, the *special library*, has emerged. As its name indicates, this is a library organized for a special purpose, with limited objectives and with its resources focused on the needs of a single organization. It is also a library the services of which go beyond those of the traditional library. The special library has been defined as one in which "the original function of the library as a store-house of books [is] supplemented by positive activities through which information [is] selected from the documents and deliberately directed where it is needed". A great number of these libraries

¹ Paper read at the S.A.L.A. Annual Conference in Grahamstown, 1950.

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have come into being during the last twenty-five years and particularly during the war. They are attached to industrial firms or Government-sponsored industries, (for instance Metropolitan-Vickers, Imperial Chemical Industries, and in this country African Explosives Ltd., and Iscor), also to research organizations of all sorts, for instance to the laboratories attached to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in Britain, and to Government Departments.

The greater part of this paper will be given to a comparison between university and special libraries from the point of view of scientific research. An important difference will have emerged from what I have already said: the university library is concerned mainly with research in the fundamental sciences; the special library is primarily concerned with research in applied science and technology. This does not mean that there is not a great deal of common ground between them, but broadly speaking the spheres of interest are quite distinct.

The second important difference is that the special library exists virtually for no other purpose than to aid the research in progress at its parent institution. The university library, however, has other commitments as well as that of providing materials for research. Its primary aim is to assist the educational programme of the university and a great part of its resources are spent in its service to undergraduates, without whom, or course, a university could not exist. Its situation is exactly parallel to that of the teaching staff of the university who, with very rare exceptions, are appointed in the first instance to instruct and train students, and not to do research, which they are free to undertake only when these primary needs have been satisfied. Moreover, whatever funds a university library can spare to provide the materials for research are not concentrated in a single field, but are scattered over a number of widely different fields, both in the sciences and in the humanities. This applies not merely to the funds for the purchase of books and periodicals, but also to funds for providing the necessary staff to organize the library for effective use.

The following account of the work of a typical special library will show how essentially different its policy towards research is from that of the university library. The Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., an extremely large and important industrial organization in Britain, has what is known as its Intelligence Section. This section was originally established with the purpose of ensuring that any research work undertaken in the Company's laboratories should be preceded by a search for all work that had already been done elsewhere in the same field. It possesses a library which, as a matter of deliberate policy, is kept as small and up-to-date as possible. It has about 2,500 text and reference books, 6,000 pamphlets and about 300 files of periodicals. Arrangements exist for co-operation with other libraries for the loan of materials in both directions. A staff of abstractors handles some 250 technical and trade journals every week and abstracts are made and circulated to those requiring to be kept up-to-date

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on leading technical and commercial subjects, ranging from atomic physics to workshop methods. A panel of translators is employed to deal with requests in foreign languages and to provide full translations of these when required. The latest numbers of certain journals are circulated among the research staff, and in some instances as many as fifteen copies of the same journal are provided. The library also acts as a storehouse for unpublished information of all kinds including translations and confidential reports. All such documents and all abstracts made are indexed and classified according to the Universal Decimal Classification. The library receives a steady stream of enquiries from all departments of the Company and answers these with the help of standard reference books and the library indexes. In addition it handles requests for complete or selected bibliographies and literature searches on special subjects. It also publishes two abstracting journals. All these services are provided at an annual cost to the Company of approximately £10,000.

Though many university libraries have a far larger annual budget than this, I doubt whether there are any which can afford to spend as much in any single field, and on services to research alone.

It is not to be inferred from the essential differences between the special and the university library in regard to the provision for materials of research that there is any sort of competition between them, or that the development of special libraries has been in any way at the expense of university libraries. On the contrary the great progress of special libraries and the development of special library technique have benefited university libraries in several ways and special libraries are still to a great extent dependent on the resources of university libraries.

This link which exists between them is based on the fact that they are allies, though on different fronts, in a never-ending battle to control the enormous flood of scientific literature, and to make the whole written record of scientific progress accessible to research workers in all parts of the world. The *documentation* of science, that is the process of assembling, arranging and distributing the literature of science is one of the biggest difficulties facing scientific research to-day.

Almost the full responsibility for this problem can be laid at the door of the scientific periodical. In the year 1665 the Royal Society of London produced the first issue of its famous *Philosophical Transactions* with the announced intention of giving "some account of the present undertakings, studies and labours of the ingenious in many considerable parts of the world". This was one of three periodicals which all started in the same year, the prototypes of the modern scientific periodical. To-day there are said to be approximately 15,000 journals which regularly publish the results of original scientific research and together they pour out roughly three quarters of a million single articles every year.

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The world of science has not yet found any better agency for the rapid publication of information than the periodical, but it has still not found a thoroughly adequate method of truly disseminating this information, of ensuring that all information of importance contained in those three quarters of a million articles will find its way into the laboratories where it will be of most use. Experiments with great universal indexes have proved to be costly failures, and it is realized to-day that the chief hope for adequate scientific documentation lies in the extension, improvement and co-ordination of abstracting services. It is undoubtedly to the special libraries that we are indebted for many of the abstracting services which have come into existence during the last twenty years. Most special libraries compile abstracts of recent publications within their sphere of interest as part of an information service to their own organizations, and in many cases they publish these abstracts in regular bulletins, available to scientists the world over, and a most valuable contribution to scientific documentation.

The special library assembles its collection with an eye to immediate rather than to potential use and does not, and in fact cannot, allow any great accumulation to take place. The result of this is that it is compelled to draw very extensively on the resources of other libraries. It would still be compelled to do so even if it were able to maintain a very full collection in its specialized field, owing to the peculiar circumstance of the scattering of the literature relating to any single topic. It has been shown by statistical analysis that out of the total number of periodical articles on a given topic, roughly one half will be found in the specialized journals where one would expect to find them, while the other half will be scattered throughout the rest of the periodical literature in a steadily decreasing frequency; with the practical result that no single library can possibly contain *all* the literature on a particular subject.

The university library is the exact complement to the special library in this respect: to a large extent it is a storehouse, and accumulates material in a great variety of fields, discarding comparatively little in the course of years. The older the university, the greater is its accumulation of books and periodicals, and it is well known that nearly all university libraries are expanding rapidly and that it is common for them to double the size of their book collections in from 16 to 20 years. A study of the *Union list of serials* and of our own *Catalogue of Union periodicals* gives some idea of the extent of the resources of materials for research contained in university libraries. It is probably true that in most countries the university libraries possess, in the aggregate, a greater wealth of research literature than any other single group of libraries, and for this reason alone they are potentially of supreme importance to the development of scientific research.

But to what extent is this wealth truly accessible to research workers and organized so that it can be exploited efficiently? To a small extent indeed, if we are to judge by the standard set by the special libraries. In comparison with his

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colleague in the special library, the university librarian is a passive creature. He can seldom act positively and with initiative in seeking out information and directing it where it is needed. The act of classifying and cataloguing is too often the limit of his initiative in this direction, and beyond that he can merely wait for the enquiries to come. He cannot possibly have a specialist's knowledge of all the branches of literature represented in his library. Ministering to the needs of the undergraduate students is the first charge on his attention, and with a large part of his time thus committed he has little left to devote to the individual problems of documentation which the research in progress at his institution may present.

Fortunately, however, the task of promoting the use of the library's resources does not rest solely on the university library staff. It is borne also by the teaching staff, a panel of specialists whose duty it is to keep abreast as far as possible with the output of literature in their several fields. They in turn can rely on aids of various kinds: reviewing journals, abstracting journals, current summaries of developments such as *Reports on progress in physics*, and on vast compendia such as the Faraday and Elzevier *Encyclopaedias*, Beilstein, *Catalogus coleopterorum* and similar works which themselves present in an easily accessible form material otherwise buried in a mass of scientific literature. Most valuable tools all of them; costly too, but their cost is negligible compared with the labour which went into their making, and the scientists who use them are able to enjoy by proxy a service of documentation such as their own libraries could certainly never provide.

It is no doubt to a large extent true that research in the fundamental sciences at the universities is far less efficient in its organization than research in the applied sciences and technology in industry and in research institutions. It proceeds at a much slower pace, it often lacks direction and is often uncertain and inconclusive in its results. There is in fact a tendency to discount the value of research in universities except when it is conducted by persons appointed specifically to do nothing else but research. It is maintained that, while it is the universities' duty to train students in the methods of research (which of course it is), the content of the research done is merely of academic importance and has little practical value.

It can be replied to this contention that it would be extremely difficult to determine precisely what research is of practical value and what is not. It would be dangerous to dismiss any piece of research, unless it happened to be purely redundant, being a repetition of work already done elsewhere, on the grounds that it could not lead to any practical application. Many instances could be quoted of discoveries in fields such as Chemistry, Botany, Entomology and above all in Physics which, though originally considered to be of academic interest only, have found quite unexpected applications of the greatest importance.

Whatever the weaknesses in the conduct of research in the universities,

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it enjoys a freedom such as is seldom found in other research establishments. The question whether it is of practical value is never asked, and the only test imposed is that of scientific integrity. This represents a most precious privilege, and university scientists should be prepared to fight to retain it.

This does not mean that they will themselves lose sight of the very close link which exists between fundamental and applied science; a double link, for not only have discoveries in fundamental science been the foundation of much of the technological progress of our time, but, as is well known in the history of science, many of the processes in manufacturing technique were in use long before they could be scientifically explained.

It would be very wrong to assume that industry does not appreciate this link also. Industry quite rightly demands that the research which it controls should be directed towards practical ends, but there have been some outstanding proofs of its growing interest in the development of research facilities at universities. Many generous gifts of money have been received by our universities, and in some cases grants have been specifically made for building up the resources of our libraries. We can consider these gifts as a great encouragement, and a tribute to the importance of fundamental research.

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SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S LIBRARY SECTION

South African Library Association

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DIE SKOOLBIBLIOTEEK EN BOEKEKEURING, I¹

E. C. DE WET, *Opsienster van Skool en Kollegebiblioteke*

Transvaalse Onderwysdepartement

DAAR word vertel dat Ptolemeus drie eeue voor die geboorte van Christus bo die pragtige biblioteek wat sy grootste monument in Alexandrië was, die opskrif, „Hospitaal vir die gees”, laat aanbring het. Bo dié van Thebes het selfs veel vroeër die woorde „Medisyne vir die siel” geskrywe gestaan.

Dit beteken dat reeds in daardie dae, toe die lig van die wysheid maar soos dié van 'n klein lantern in 'n donker nag was, die geskrewe woord 'n waarborg vir 'n gesonde gees en denke was. Vandag is ons wêreld so oneindig groter ook in sy moeilikhede en moontlikhede dat die boek baie meer geword het as 'n toevlug vir die mense wat besef dat hulle dit nodig het. Vir ons is die boek lewensbelangrike toerusting wat elkeen so gou as moontlik moet ontvang. Dit is die skool wat in die uitgesogte geleentheid gestel is om hierdie toerusting aan elke toekomstige burger in sy ontvanklike vormingsjare te gee. Maar sonder die skoolbiblioteek kan die skool nooit daarin slaag nie. Die doel sal ook nie deur enige versameling boeke bereik word nie, want net so min as wat 'n hoop boumateriaal 'n gebou is, is enige massa boeke 'n skoolbiblioteek. Eers wanneer ons die boeke op so 'n besondere wyse uitkies en aanwend dat grootse doelstellings in die opvoeding van die kind daardeur bereik word, mag ons van 'n skoolbiblioteek praat.

Of u skoolbiblioteek aan sy roeping gaan beantwoord, sal nie van die weelde of eenvoud van die kamer of van hoeveel duisend boeke u daarin huisves, afhang nie, maar van die oortuiging waarmee u strewe na die bereiking van sy doelstellings, nl. :

1. om nie slegs as aanvulling by die leerplan te dien nie, maar om as die kragtasie van die skool, lewe en doel aan elke vak en aktiwiteit te gee ;
2. om die kind perspektief te gee deur die werk van die klaskamers te ko-

¹ Hierdie artikel het alreeds in die *Journal of Secondary Education* verskyn.

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ordineer en gapings te oorbrug. Vir die leerling wat die skool verlaat met die idee dat die wêreld netjies in waterdigte skoolvakkompartemente ingedeel is, gaan dit soveel meer tyd en moeite kos om hom by die werklikheid aan te pas.

Die skoolbiblioteek met sy verteenwoordigende en logies gerangskikte klasse boeke moet 'n toonbeeld wees van die breë stroom van kennis waarin skoolvakke slegs ondergeskikte dele van 'n groot ordelike geheel uitmaak. Dit is opvoeding ;

3. om die kind te leer hoe om die boek as lewenshulpmiddel te gebruik en om dwarsdeur sy lewe met vaardigheid daaruit kennis te bekom. Die doel van die opvoeding is tog nie om aan hom al die kennis in die wêreld te gee nie, maar om hom te voorsien met 'n brug wat daarna lei. Die skoolbiblioteek moet hom leer om hierdie brug te gebruik, m.a.w. om homself te help, en moet begin met die alledaagse soort kennis wat hy sonder om tweemaal te dink, moet kan vind. Om die kind die lewe in te stuur sonder dat hy ten minste die telefoon-adresboek, die bustydtafel, die spoorweggids, die jaarboek, die atlas, die woordeboek en die ensiklopedie leer ken en op die lonendste wyse leer gebruik het, is geen kleiner misdaad as hom sonder 'n valskerm uit 'n vliegtuig te stoot nie ;

4. om nuwe wêreld vir die kind te ontsluit en sy lewe gelukkiger en vrugbaarder te maak deur konkrete belangstellings aan te kweek.

Ons lewe in 'n tyd waarin dit lyk asof al die magte van die wêreld saamspan om te verhoed dat die kind vir homself moet leer dink. Om mee te begin, het hy soveel speelgoed dat dit nie meer vir hom nodig is om vindingryk te wees nie. Dan kom die radio, die bioskoop, die koerant en die "comics" om vir hom alles kant en klaar op te dis. Selfs die skool loop dikwels gevaar om voor te skryf in plaas van te lei tot self-ontwikkeling. Die kind wie se belangstelling in sy duiwe of sy katjie deur die geskikte boek konkreet gemaak word, sal gaandeweg meer en groter belangstellings aankweek. Lees sal vir hom iets vanselfsprekend word. Hy is die burger van die toekoms wat sy lewenstaak as 'n roeping sal kies, daaroor sal lees en 'n sukses daarvan sal maak.

5. om verbeelding op 'n gesonde wyse te verryk, is 'n groot moontlikheid maar ook 'n groot verantwoordelikheid van die skoolbiblioteek. Verbeelding is 'n onskatbare gawe—"the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire ; you will what you imagine ; and at last you create what you will." (George Bernard Shaw.) Die boek het die mag om die kind ver weg te neem na 'n wêreld van fantasie wat vir hom die werklikheid self is. Dit kan 'n gesonde wêreld wees, of 'n sieklike verwronge wêreld waarin 'n sin van waardes nie pas nie. Die skoolbiblioteek wat die boek in die hand van die kind stel sonder om tweekeer te dink in watter kanaal dit sy gees gaan stuur, maak van sy roeping 'n klug ;

6. om as stimulus en bron van inligting vir die onderwyser te dien, 'n hulpmiddel waarsonder hy homself verlore moet ag. Vir die onderwyser wat miskien nog aan die een handboekmetode of die uitgewerkte aantekeninge verknog is, sal die doeltreffende skoolbiblioteek op daadwerklike wyse 'n verruimde uitkyk bring.

DIE SKOOLBIBLIOTEEK EN BOEKEKEURING

Om hierdie ideale—praktiese ideale—to bereik, moet elke boek in die skoolbiblioteek as 'n geskikte instrument gekies word. Dan is ons grootste besorgdheid ook nie meer oor hoeveel die kind lees nie, maar oor wat en hoe hy lees.

Dit was in die 18de eeu toe Samuel Johnson gesê het : "What a boy reads is unimportant, so long as he reads two hours a day and acquires the habit of reading." Maar Samuel Johnson het nie die massa-produksie van ons boekmark geken nie. Tog sê baie mense, selfs opvoeders, vandag nog presies dieselfde. Hulle het dan, toe hulle jonk was, al die soorte boeke en in een stadium slegs die minderwaardige gelees, daardeur heen gestap en heel bo uitgekom. Hulle hoort aan 'n klein tien persent met wie dit wel gebeur. Maar wat sê hulle gewete van die negentig persent wat skaars halfpad vir goed aan die verdowingsmiddel verslaaf geraak het, met geen smaak vir een boek van 'n bietjie meer blywende waarde nie ? Nugter beskou, sou dit vir hulle beter gewees het dat hulle „leeslus" nooit aangekweek was nie, want in geen opsig het die boek bygedra om hulle lewens vrugbaarder en gelukkiger te maak nie.

Indien u dit nie glo nie, kom saam na ons universiteite, en kyk hoe min van die produkte van ons opvoeding die vermoë besit om die boek as brug te gebruik en met hoeveel swaarkry en verspeling van kosbare tyd die ander dit dan eers moet aanleer. Gaan na die groot biblioteek en kyk watter tipe boeke by talle van ons jongmense 'n obsessie en 'n lewens-houding geword het. Gaan na die duisende huise waar egskedings dreig omdat die moeder of vader in 'n wêreld van ontvlugting lewe en die verantwoordelikheid van die werklikheid ontduik, na ons howe, na ons verbeterings en reddingshuise en speur na watter soort boek en tydskrif in hulle duisende, met 'n drang wat groter is as dié na voedsel, verslind word. Miskien sal u dan mening verander.

Om die standpunt „maak nie saak wat die kind lees nie, solank hy maar lees", te handhaaf, verg geen inspanning nie. Dit is 'n suiwer "survival of the fittest"—beleid, die antitese van opvoeding. Smaak en leeslus word tegelykertyd aangekweek, en die kind se houding teenoor die boek is sy houding teenoor die lewe self.

*Dus, indien u in opvoeding glo, glo u in boekekeuring vir die skoolbiblioteek.
(Word vervoly)*

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SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

HANDBOOK OF LIBRARIANSHIP IN SOUTH AFRICA



Contents

Council and office-bearers
Publications of the South African Library Association
Summary of South African library history. M. M. Stirling
Some notes on legislation affecting public libraries in the Union of South Africa.
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Members in direct contact with Branch Secretaries may obtain copies from them. All orders for postal delivery should be sent to : *The Hon. Secretary, South African Library Association, P.O. Box 6, Rondebosch, Cape Province* to whom remittances should be made payable.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN SCHOOL OF LIBRARIANSHIP

Bibliographical Series

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Carpenter, O. : The development of Southern Rhodesia from the earliest times to the year 1900.	6/-
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